

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 IO-14 /033 R

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-----084975 061719Z /64

R 061500Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

UNCLAS STATE 142540

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SU

SUBJECT: GSP-AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIALS

REF: KHARTOUM 1905

1. DEPARTMENT WILL ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE BROAD GUIDELINES TO GIVE EMBASSY BACKGROUND IN ASSISTING SUDAN GOV TO HANDLE CERTIFICATION UNDER GSP ,ROGRAM.
 2. UNDER GSP PROGRAM WHEN FOREIGN EXPORTER IS GOING TO SHIP PRODUCT TO US THAT HE OR AMERICAN IMPORTER BELIEVES ELIGIBLE FOR GSP DUTY-FREE TREATMENT, FOREIGN EXPORTER WOULD TAKE PROPERLY FILLED IN UNCTAD CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN FORM A TO CERTIFYING AUTHORITY IN HIS COUNTRY. CERTIFYING AUTHORITY IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER IT BELIEVES ITEM IS ON US GSP ELIGIBILITY LIST OR NOT WOULD CERTIFY THAT EXPORTERS DECLARATION ON FORM A IS CORRECT - E.G., THAT PRODUCT PRODUCED IN SUDAN WITH VALUE ADDED AS INDICATED ON FORM A. THE US IMPORTER MUST FILE THIS FORM WITH US CUSTOMS UPON ENTRY OF THE
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GOODS. THE CUSTOMS OFFICIAL EXAMINES THE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN, AND IF THE GOODS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GSP, ALLOWS THEM TO ENTER DUTY-FREE.

3. IF GOODS ARE OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE FOR GS, EXCEPT FOR MISSING OR INCORRECT FORM A, IMPORTER CAN RECEIVE GOODS AND POST A BOND FOR MISSING DOCUMENT. BOND IS VALID

FOR 60 DAYS BUT CAN BE EXTENDED FOR LONGER PERIOD
AT DISCRETION OF US CUSTOMS DISTRICT DIRECTOR IF
IMPORTER CAN SHOW CAUSE. THIS GIVES IMPORTER TIME
TO OBTAIN PROPERLY CERTIFIED FORM A AND GAIN DUTY-FREE
TREATMENT FOR THE IMPORTED ITEM.

4. MIRA INTERNATIONAL FOODS IS ATTEMPTING TO GET
DUTY REFUND OF APPROXIMATELY \$1200 IT PAID ON THREE
SHIPMENTS OF SMALL MELON SEEDS EXPORTED BY ARIZONA
TRADING CO., KHARTOUM. SHIPMENTS LEFT PORT SUDAN
ON NOVEMBER 25, 1976 (SS HELLENIC FAITH), NOVEMBER 18,
1977 (HELLENIC PRIDE) AND MAY 31, 1977 (COMORDIA GLEN).
EXPORTER HAS ADVISED MIRA THAT MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY
SAYS THAT IT IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO CERTIFY FORM A
AND THAT THIS IS RESPONSIBILITY OF MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

5. GIVEN SEEMING JURISDICTIONAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY,
DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS THAT EMBASSY OBTAIN SIGNATURE AND
SEAL SPECIMENS OF MFA OFFICIALS AUTHORIZED TO CERTIFY
FORM A AND SEND THEM TO US CUSTOMS SERVICE. EMBASSY
SHOULD ALSO CABLE DEPT. IF MFA IS CERTIFYING
AUTHORITY, IN ORDER TO ALLOW EXPEDITION TREATMENT
OF MIRA CASE. THEN AS LONG AS FORM A IS CERTIFIED
BY EITHER OR BOTH MFA OR MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY,
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CUSTOMS CAN ACCEPT FORM A IF OTHERWISE CORRECTLY
FILLED OUT.

6. FYI: WHILE FOREIGN CERTIFYING AUTHORITIES
ARE ASKED TO FURNISH CUSTOMS SERVICE WITH CURRENT
SIGNATORIES AUTHORIZED TO CERTIFY FORM A, GOODS ARE
NOT NORMALLY REJECTED FOR DUTY FREE ENTRANCE ON
BASIS OF INCORRECT SIGNATURE. SEAL OF CERTIFYING
AUTHORITY IS CRITICAL DOCUMENTATION MAINTAINED AT
ALL US PORTS, WHILE SIGNATORIES ARE ONLY AT FILE
IN CUSTOMS HEADQUARTERS AND ARE USED ONLY WHEN
CUSTOMS HAS REASON TO DOUBT VALIDITY OF SEAL
SPECIMEN. END FYI. VANCE

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